

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled):

10 (Currently Amended): A method for ~~manufacturing~~ making highly pure 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene comprising:

~~a step of~~

performing cooling crystallization of a mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes which includes 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene;

~~a step of~~

performing solid-liquid separation to obtain a solid component; and

~~a washing step of~~

washing the solid component using a solvent which is an aliphatic and/or alicyclic hydrocarbon;

wherein the solid-liquid separation performed after the cooling crystallization includes press filtration.

11 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes is a mixture composed of dimethylnaphthalene isomers.

12 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the press filtration is performed at a pressure of 10 kg /cm² or more.

13 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes is used as a feedstock and includes 5 wt% or more of 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

14 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the cooling crystallization is performed for a mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes which includes less than 25 wt% of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene.

15 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the washing step is performed for a solid component containing 80% or more of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene ~~using a solvent~~, and further comprising steps of performing solid-liquid separation and distillation after the washing step, whereby a 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene having a high purity of 99% or more is obtained.

16 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the solvent used in the washing step is an aliphatic hydrocarbon and/or alicyclic hydrocarbon having 5 to 10 carbon atoms.

17 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the press filtration is performed using a tube press.

18 (Currently Amended): A method for ~~manufacturing~~ making highly pure 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene comprising:

a step of performing cooling crystallization of a mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes which includes 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene;

a step of performing solid-liquid separation which includes press filtration to obtain a solid component; and

a washing step of washing the solid component using a solvent which is an aliphatic and/or alicyclic hydrocarbon;

wherein the washing step is performed at least twice, and a part or the entirety of a mother liquor obtained in a the second washing step or in a subsequent washing step is used as a solvent in a washing step performed prior to the washing step at which the mother liquor is obtained.

19 (Currently Amended): The manufacturing method according to Claim 18 47,
wherein the mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes is a mixture composed of dimethylnaphthalene isomers.

20 (Currently Amended): The manufacturing method according to Claim 18 47,
wherein the solid-liquid separation includes press filtration performed at a pressure of 10 kg/cm² or more.

21 (Currently Amended): The manufacturing method according to Claim 18 47,
wherein the mixture containing dimethylnaphthalenes is used as a feedstock and includes 5 wt% or more of 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

22 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 18 ~~17~~,
wherein the cooling crystallization is performed for a mixture containing
dimethylnaphthalenes which includes less than 25 wt% of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene.

23 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 18 ~~17~~,
wherein ~~the~~ washing step is performed for a solid component containing 80% or more of 2,6-
dimethylnaphthalene using a solvent, and

further comprising steps of performing solid-liquid separation and distillation after the
washing step, whereby a 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene having a high purity of 99% or more is
obtained.

24 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 18 ~~17~~,
wherein the solvent used in ~~the~~ for washing step is an aliphatic hydrocarbon and/or
alicyclic hydrocarbon having 5 to 10 carbon atoms.

25 (Currently Amended): The ~~manufacturing~~ method according to Claim 18 ~~17~~,
wherein the press filtration is performed using a tube press.

26 (New): The method of Claim 10, which comprises washing the solid component
in hexane.

27 (New): The method of Claim 10, which comprises washing the solid component
in octane.

Application No. 10/069,502
Reply to Office Action of August 26, 2003

28 (New): The method of Claim 18, which comprises washing the solid component in hexane.

29 (New): The method of Claim 18, which comprises washing the solid component in octane.

30 (New): The method of Claim 10, wherein the 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene obtained has a purity of 99% or more.

31 (New): The method of Claim 18, wherein the 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene obtained has a purity of 99% or more.